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Early Days in Bermuda and the Bahamas. II

by EDWARD LYNAM, D.LITT.

ON OCTOBER 12, 1492, a fateful day in the history of mankind, Columbus set foot in the New World. He disembarked on what proved to be a small island, of a tropical beauty which delighted him, and received from the simple natives a welcome which moved him deeply. Believing that he had reached Asia, he called them Indians, and named the island San Salvador (Island of the Holy Redeemer). Actually he was near the centre of the Lucayos or Bahamas, a line of twenty-nine low, coralline islands and over 900 cays and rocks, which extend for 760 miles from near the coast of Florida south-eastwards to the Windward Islands, dividing the Caribbean Sea from the Atlantic Ocean. For a few days he cruised among the islands, but finding none of them large enough to be Cipangu (Japan), the object of his quest, he sailed south to Cuba and thence east to Hispaniola. There gold was found in quantities and the first Spanish settlement was made. Though claimed for the King of Spain, the Lucayos were neglected for some years. Then Ponce de Leon, a conquistador, heard from the natives that in the western isle of Bimini there was a sacred fountain which gave eternal youth to all who bathed in its waters. His imagination fired by the memory of a similar tale cherished by the folk of his own country, he set out in 1512 to find the fountain. It eluded him though he made many voyages; but he discovered Florida and thus became one of the pioneers of that migration to the mainland which in time seriously weakened Spanish power in the West Indies. Meanwhile his fellow colonists were solving a very different problem. Like every white race which has attempted to exploit a tropical country, they found themselves more and more dependent upon native labour. By 1550 they had transported the whole population of the Lucayas, estimated at 40,000, to work in the gold-mines of Hispaniola and in the pearl-fisheries 1000 miles to the south. There, within three generations, they perished. Thereafter the Lucayos, 4400 square miles of noble forest, warm, fertile plains, salt lagoons and winding channels and creeks of fantastic beauty but swept by periodical hurricanes,

lay for nearly a century as deserted as Bermuda in its pristine state. In their callous opportunism the conquerors of the New World had given a pledge to fortune.

Dreaming of freedom and riches, Englishmen had sailed 3000 miles into the Atlantic to colonize Bermuda in the years 1612-24. By 1629 they had prospected 1000 miles farther and landed on the Bahamas, as they were then called. In that year Charles I granted the islands to one Sir Robert Heath; but it was only a royal gesture, gone with the wind. The energy of the Puritan magnates who were becoming the political and economic leaders of England was needed to accomplish something more. In 1629 the roving Daniel Elfrith of Bermuda persuaded the Earl of Warwick and John Pym to form the Providence Company and to colonize the Spanish islands of Santa Catalina and San Andrés far to the south, renaming them Providence and Henrietta. The first Governor of Providence was Philip Bell, formerly Governor of Bermuda and later of Barbados, and its first 'Admiral' Daniel Elfrith. Situated in the heart of Spanish possessions, over 1500 miles from Bermuda and 1100 from the nearest English settlements, St Kitts and Nevis, Providence was really a daring experiment in Warwick's 'Western Design'; and it fell before Spanish attacks, as it was bound to, in 1641. But during those eventful years, 1629-41, the English colonists, among them Nathaniel Butler, another ex-Governor of Bermuda, exposed the weakness of Spain in the Caribbean, laid the foundations of British Honduras and induced Cromwell later on to support the Western Design and to dispatch the expedition which captured Jamaica in 1655. Indeed, Captain William Jackson, a privateer from Providence, took the capital of Jamaica as early as 1644 and held it to ransom. Perhaps to show that he was no pirate, he presented £150 of this money to the grammar school recently founded on Bermuda, and was hailed as "a valiant and victorious generall" by the master of the school, none other than Richard Norwood, the surveyor and teacher of navigation. In 1655-56 the Commonwealth Government had diffi-



All illustrations, except two, by courtesy of the British Museum

The pirate captain, Edward Teague or "Blackbeard", from an early engraving. At Nassau, his headquarters in 1717, many stories are still told about him, his plaited beard and red breeches

culty in finding colonists for Jamaica owing to its evil reputation for fevers; but in 1657 Hugh Wentworth of Bermuda brought over 200 of his fellow-islanders to settle.

Jamaica became later, like Bermuda, a springboard to the Bahamas. But the latter were actually colonized from England. In 1647 a group of London Puritans, discontented with the Established Church, decided to found a republic of their own on some uninhabited island in the west. William Sayle, yet another ex-Governor of Bermuda,

recommended Cigateo, one of the Bahamas, although he had never seen it; and to Cigateo, which they named in anticipation Eleutheria or Freedom, they sailed away in 1649, though little better equipped than Edward Lear's Jumbies. But the model republic crumbled to bits at the first contact with realities, and by 1656 many of the Puritans had departed. Some of the less godly remained, however, and were joined during the next few years by undesirables, both white and coloured, dumped from Bermuda and by human jetsam from Jamaica. Sayle had discovered another Bahamian island which he named New Providence to distinguish it from Santa Catalina, now generally called Old Providence. There and on Eleutheria, corrupted to Eleuthera, this motley population maintained itself, some by honest labour, others by wrecking and piracy. England's right to the Bahamas being thus shakily established, Charles II granted them in 1670 to a group of noblemen, headed by the Earl of Shaftesbury, who were already Lords Proprietors of Carolina. But these gentlemen had better fish to fry elsewhere. For the forty-seven years during which they ruled the Bahamas they contented themselves with appointing Governors who seldom ruled and with promulgating orders which were persistently ignored. The western Bahamas lay temptingly close to Havana in Cuba where the Spanish treasure ships assembled for their homeward voyage, and to the Florida Gulf, through which those ships had to sail, often suffering shipwreck on Bahamian shoals. And from Bimini in the west to Great Inagua in the east there were enough uninhabited islets and snug harbours to hide a fleet of freebooters. When the buccaneers of Jamaica found their palmy days there coming to an end about 1680, many of them moved to the Bahamas. It was probably



From the Macpherson Collection, by courtesy of the National Maritime Museum

(above) An early engraving showing Captain Woodes Rogers landing near Cape San Lucas, California, during his privateering voyage in Spanish waters, 1708-11. The voyage made a profit of £170,000 for the owners and crews. (Right) Woodes Rogers with his son and daughter in 1729, from a painting by Hogarth in the National Maritime Museum. His fame as a navigator is symbolized by the globe, a Governor by the map



By courtesy of the National Maritime Museum

then that the Island of the Holy Redeemer was renamed Watling's Island in memory of George Watling, a noted buccaneer who had his temporary headquarters there.

Left largely to their own devices, the Proprietors' Governors of the Bahamas, even Hugh Wentworth of Bermuda and his brother John, succumbed one after another to temptation. They sold commissions for privateering against the Spaniards and gave harbourage to "sea-captains" of very doubtful antecedents, connived at deliberate wrecking and even extorted money from the colonists and invented pretexts for seizing Dutch and English merchantmen. When the crews of these found their way to Jamaica and complained of their treatment, the Governors of that island, now reformed and respectable, censured the conduct of their opposite numbers in the Bahamas severely. Indeed, while historians still disagree as to what the Governor of North Carolina said to the Governor of South Carolina, there can be no doubt as to what both of these said of the Governors of the Bahamas. The Governors of Jamaica were, in fact, often embarrassed by requests from the Bahamian settlers to take over their government and protect them against piratical guests and Spanish enemies. The latter had taken, not without reason, a

dislike to the English on the Bahamas, and raided them regularly. In 1684 they practically destroyed Charles Town on the site of the present Nassau, and killed the Governor, Robert Clarke, who had issued many privateering commissions. Some of the Independents from Eleuthera fled to Boston, where they were given a welcome, and eventually settled at North Yarmouth near Portland, Maine. Others sought a temporary refuge in Jamaica, while others merely retired to the uninhabited islands of Inagua and Abaco, to return as soon as the Spaniards had departed. The Spaniards must have found the Bahamians as difficult to exterminate as other great Powers found the Armenians in the 19th century. The Bermudians, who saw rich possibilities in the Bahamas and regarded the Lords Proprietors as interlopers, petitioned more than once during this period that those islands be placed under their government since "they had discovered them".

In 1696 a famous pirate, John Avery, Every or Bridgman, arrived at New Providence from the Indian Ocean. His ship was the *Fancy*, the property of Sir James Houblon, financier and friend of Pepys, which he had captured, and she carried chests full of jewels which he had taken from a ship belonging to the Great Mogul. In return for a present of 2500 pieces of eight the Governor, Nicolas Trott (of a Bermuda family), allowed Avery to run the *Fancy* ashore and to transfer his booty to an innocent-looking sloop, in which he departed for Boston. Governor Trott nevertheless laid out a new town and built a fort, naming both Nassau in honour of William III. Elias Heskett became Governor in 1700. He actually attempted to govern, but the islanders,



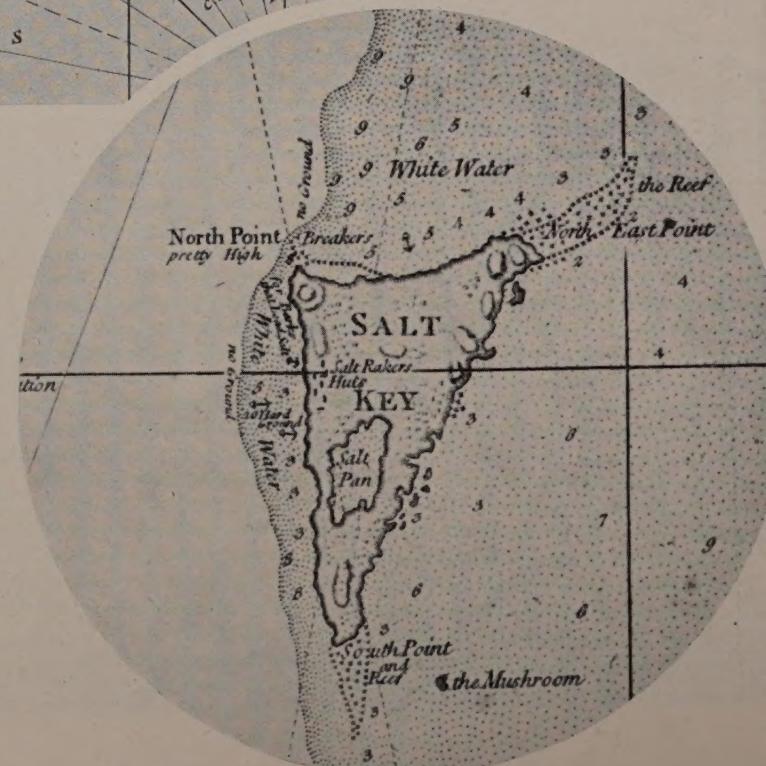
(Left) Old Providence, 1771. The islets Santa Catalina and San Andrés, over 1000 miles from any English settlement, were colonized in 1629 by the Providence Company and named Providence (later called Old Providence to distinguish it from New Providence in the Bahamas) and Henrietta. Though provocatively close to a route used by Spanish treasure ships, as shown on the map (opposite) of about 1710, the settlers defied Spain for twelve years





(Left) From a chart of the West Indies by J. Seller and C. Price, 1703. This map shows the relative positions and distances from each other of Bermuda (colonized 1612), New Providence (colonized 1649), Jamaica (captured 1655) and Turks Islands, and of Columbus' San Salvador (Watling's Island) and Hispaniola. Bermudians first exploited New Providence and Turks Islands, 820 and 745 nautical miles away respectively. Jamaica later sent settlers into the Bahamas

(Right) One of the Turks Islands, from a chart of 1770. About 1678, when the Bermudians became unable to export their only exportable commodity, food, they discovered this island; by working its rich salt deposits energetically they were able to supply North American ports for a century. In 1740 some 800 salt rakers and packers were employed and salt ships made a 3000-mile round journey





Part of the engraved title page of a Dutch book on pirates, 1691; these are typical ships of the time when Pepys and Sir Anthony Deane were building 'first-raters' to carry 100 guns and 740 men

considering this a bad precedent, soon had him deported. In the opinion of the Bermudians he deserved it, for he *had* had the effrontery to claim Turks Islands—whence, although these were some 745 miles from their home, the men of Bermuda had been exporting salt for twenty years—for the Bahamas and had even seized one of their salt ships. The Bermudians promptly enforced their claim with armed sloops; but the harm had been done, the home government had discovered that Turks Islands were really quite a long way from Bermuda, and after considering the question for a century, awarded them to the Bahamas in 1804. In 1703-4 Spanish and French forces, now allied against England in the War of the Spanish Succession, ravaged New Providence so thoroughly that Governor Birch, who arrived soon afterwards, found nobody to govern, and went home. For the next thirteen years the Bahamas lay shrouded in a mist. It lifted in 1717, to reveal Edward Teach or Teague, otherwise "Black-

beard", a Welsh pirate, ruling the seas from a 'fort' near Nassau. Many are the tales told about Blackbeard, his fine taste in clothes and whiskers, his fourteen wives and his audacity; but he was cornered by two warships in a Carolina creek in 1717, and died fighting.

A storm of complaints from the American colonies and from merchants of many nationalities compelled the Lords Proprietors to surrender their civil and military rights in the Bahamas to the Crown in 1717. At the same time they leased their proprietary rights for twenty one years to Captain Woodes Rogers of Bristol. Rogers was a distinguished navigator and a born leader of men who in 1708-11 had commanded a privateering fleet equipped by Bristol merchants which took considerable Spanish treasure in the Pacific and later sailed round the world. His reputation and probably also the influence of Addison, who was his friend, caused him to be appointed Governor under the Crown. On reaching Nassau he proclaimed a Royal amnesty for

pirates, and received some 200 submissions. He promptly set about rebuilding Nassau, erecting forts and training soldiers, using some of the ex-pirates as officers; and the next Spanish attack was easily repulsed. But the home government gave him slight support and meagre funds; the pirates found discipline tedious and slipped back to their old ways, although Rogers hanged some of them; and during the hot summer months such a drowsiness descended on the islanders that they were about as useful as lotus-eaters. After three years Rogers went home. His successors, however, proved no better than the Proprietors' Governors, and in 1729 he was reappointed at the request of the settlers and of the governments of Virginia, Carolina and Bermuda.

He convened the first General Assembly of the Bahamas, modelled upon those of Bermuda and Barbados, and from then until his death in 1732 revealed himself as a colonial administrator of exceptional ability and resource. It is astonishing that there is no monument to him in the islands for which he did so much. The motto on the Arms of the colony, *Expulsis Piratis Restituta Commercia*, is an indirect tribute to him.

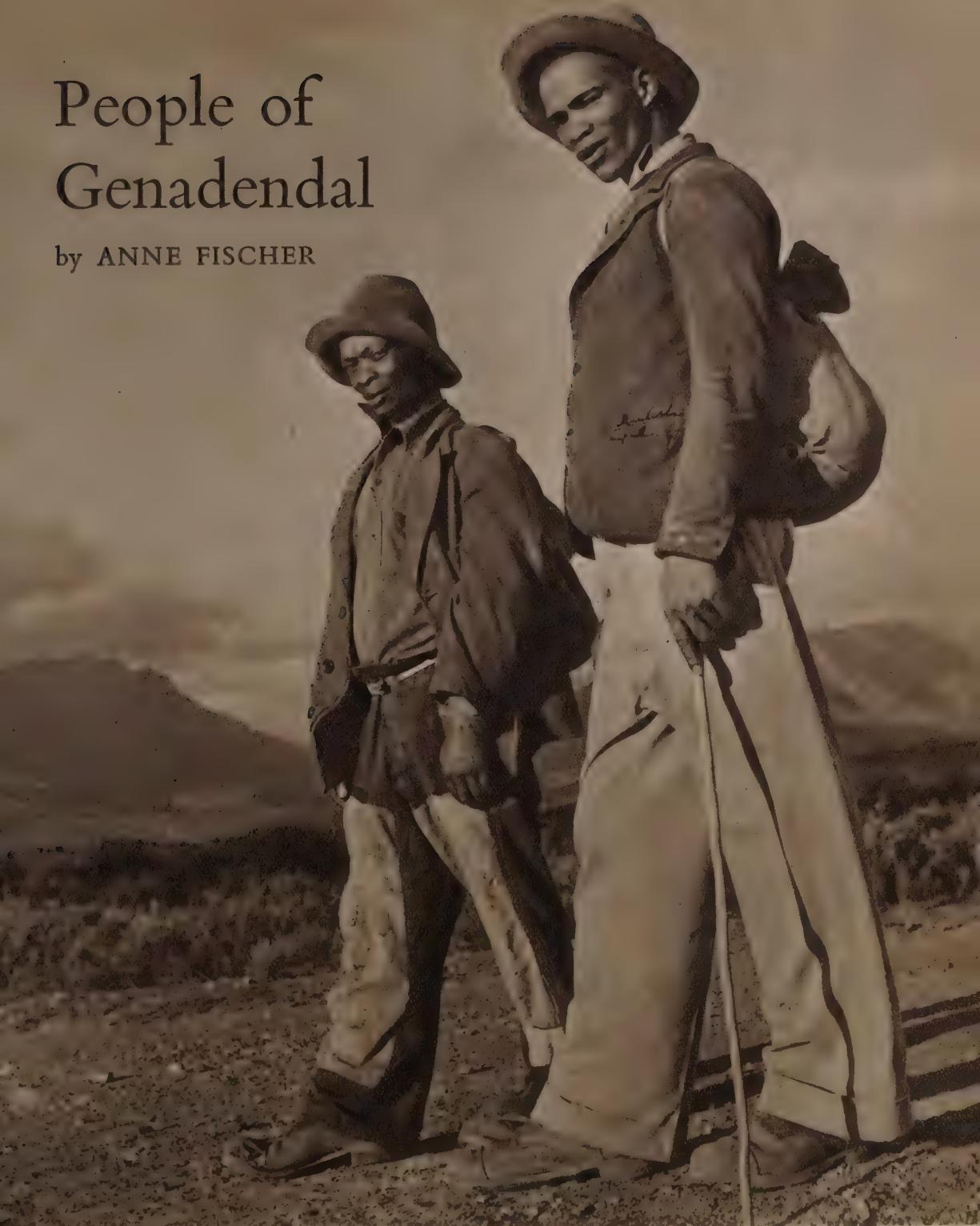
The Age of Respectability in the Bahamas began in 1729. During the following fifty years the islands progressed sleepily but steadily. New streets, dutifully named after members of the Royal Family, grew up in Nassau, and an export of pine, cedar, brazil-etto and other woods, of turtle-shell and of the delicate Bahama conches, used for cameos, was established. But the American War of Independence brought trouble. In 1776 Admiral Ezekiel Hopkins arrived with a fleet at Nassau, took the forts without resistance, and carried off such guns and ammunition as had not been evacuated. Six years later a Spanish fleet caught the forts napping again and took possession of New Providence. But Colonel Andrew Deveaux of the South Carolina Militia sailed over from St Augustine in Florida with "a handful of ragged militia", collected volunteers on the out-islands and by daring strategy obliged the whole Spanish force to surrender. In that year, 1783, England's right to the Bahamas was at last acknowledged by Spain. The end of the war and the cession of Florida to Spain in 1783 brought about great social, political and economic changes in the Bahamas. After their victory the American Republicans penalized the Loyalists severely, with the result that many of the latter, with their families, slaves and everything that they could transport, migrated to the Bahamas. The islands' popu-

lation of about 1800 was suddenly increased by over 6000, New York alone sending 1400 people. The home government not only gave these exiles free grants of land, especially on Harbour Island, Long Island and Abaco, but paid them over £2,000,000 in compensation. Experienced planters, these men cleared woodlands, laid out large cotton estates worked by slaves, built fine mansions and for fifty years maintained in the Bahamas the old feudal life and culture of Virginia. But soil was improvidently exhausted, cotton failed under the ravages of insects, and the abolition of slavery in 1838 eventually caused the plantations and the fine houses to be abandoned. Nevertheless, other industries have prospered. The export of rare woods from the forest areas expanded; after 1841 the sponge fisheries, which are among the richest in the world, were developed and sometimes employed as many as 6000 persons; and after 1887 sisal hemp, manufactured from a native cactus, became a valuable product. All these industries are now in decline, it is to be hoped only temporarily.

Since the Bahamas are only 550 and 500 miles distant from Wilmington and Charleston, the principal Confederate ports in 1861-5, the American Civil War brought even more excitement and prosperity to Nassau than it did to Bermuda. Even the government netted enough money to pay off its modest debts, to open the Royal Victoria Hotel for the accommodation of Confederate visitors and to build a fine prison and a large cemetery. Since then numerous hotels (equipped with every modern luxury) have sprung up on the islands, for the citizens of the United States, only fifty miles away at Miami in Florida, have discovered the delightful winter climate of the Bahamas and have made them a favourite resort. The population is now over 70,000, twenty of the twenty-nine islands are inhabited, and by a Royal decree the name San Salvador has been restored. In spite of differences in area, climate and resources, the Bahamas and Bermuda have much in common. Both are distant outposts of the British Empire, colonized by men of exceptional courage and character and developed in the face of great difficulties and of neglect for two centuries by the home government. Both now depend for most of their food supplies on the United States of America, derive most of their revenue from American visitors and from the economic and the military point of view are in the orbit of that great country. But in both the coloured population is rapidly increasing. In the Bahamas it forms 85 per cent of the whole.

People of Genadendal

by ANNE FISCHER



Genadendal, a Coloured People's village about 95 miles from Cape Town, was founded in 1737 by Georg Schmidt, a Moravian missionary. Each resident has title deeds to the land his house stands on and to his vegetable plot. These young villagers, who work for a white farmer during the week, are doing their two-hour week-end walk home



A pupil at the Genadendal school, started by the Moravians but now government-run. The villagers are mostly old or very young, because the rising generation goes away to factory work and domestic service in the towns



She was formerly a domestic servant. Retired to the village, she lives with her son, the only survivor of a large family, who makes just enough as a farm labourer and in the family vegetable garden to keep them both



“The farmer gave me a tot! ”—it’s Friday night and he’s happy



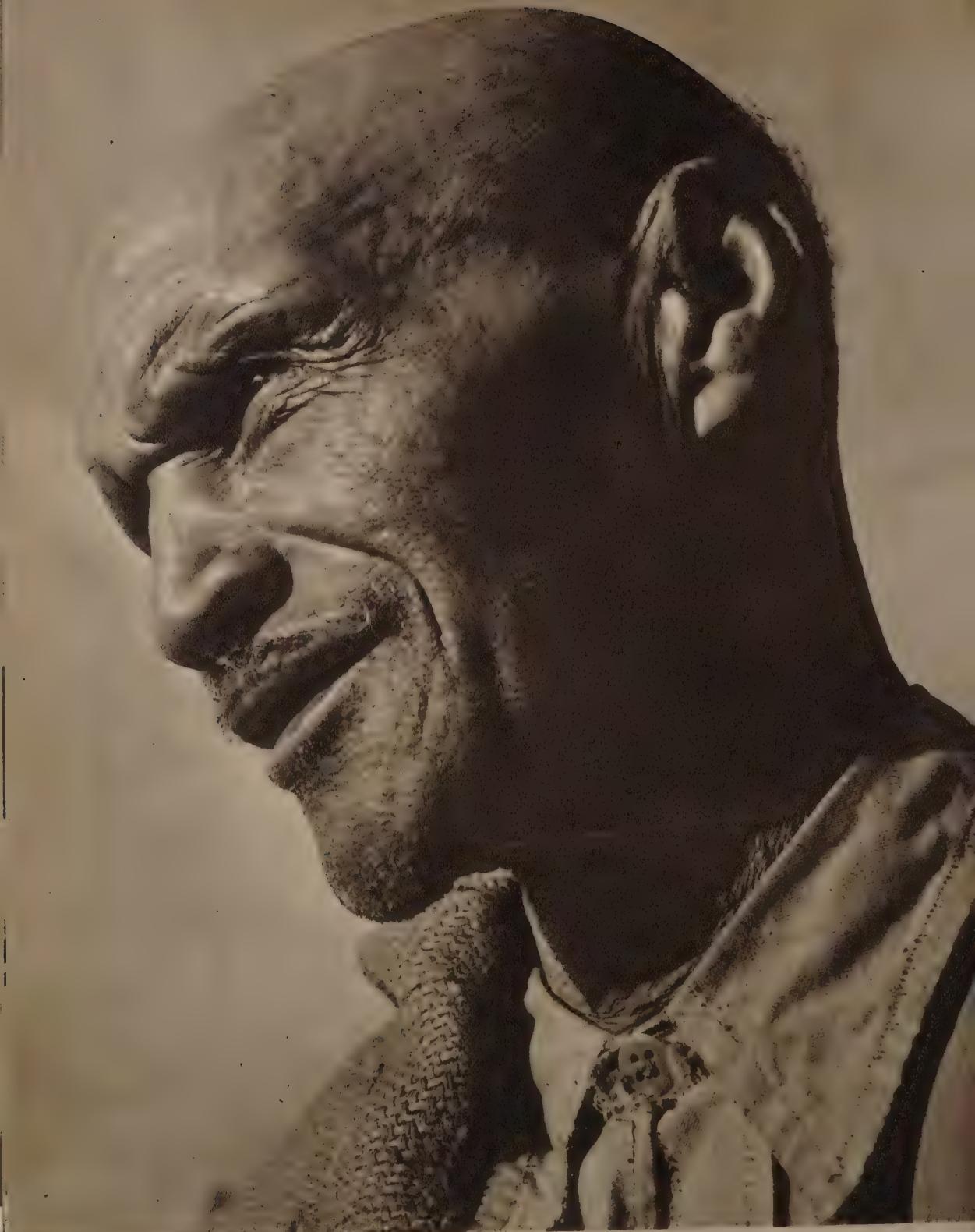
“Tomorrow I'm off to Cape Town!”—more money and more fun



Genadendal grannie who says that her services as midwife are more in demand than those of the government-trained nurse, though she is busy enough looking after the children of her daughter who works in a town



All on her own, with an old-age pension of 30s. a month: she eats meat once in that time. Her absent children do not earn enough to send her money but she sometimes gets presents like the old army woollens she is wearing



All photographs by Anne Fischer

This strong face might easily come, fortified with a dash of the Tartar, from Eastern Europe: actually it is the product of the racial mixture composing the people of Genadendal in the Union of South Africa

Maloh Silversmiths in Sarawak

by HEDDA MORRISON

Mrs Morrison lived many years in China and some of her remarkable photographs of that country illustrated her article entitled Chinese Harmony in our August number. She has now gone to Sarawak with her husband, who is stationed there as an official of the British Colonial Service

WHEN the Dyaks of Sarawak are discussed it is customary to mention their former head-hunting propensities, the men's elaborate war-dresses and head-dresses topped with hornbill feathers, the hand-woven skirts of the women and, in particular, the silver jewellery worn by members of both sexes. It is, therefore, rather surprising to find that the Dyaks themselves have never taken up the craft of working metal for ornamental purposes. Their traditional silverware has always been made by another people called Malohs, though nowadays much of it is supplied by Chinese silversmiths working in the bazaars.

The Malohs are not one of the indigenous peoples of Sarawak but come from beyond the Dutch border where they live along the Kapuas River. According to the authoritative *Pagan Tribes of Borneo* by Hose and Macdougall, they belong to the group of people called Klemantans or "Sago Eaters" and are racially distinct from the Dyaks though they resemble them physically. There are only a few Malohs living in Sarawak, and I recently had an opportunity of visiting one of their two houses on the Upper Rejang, not far from the small centre of Kapit.

The journey to the house from Kapit takes about an hour by outboard motor-boat. It is situated immediately above the river and is almost completely hidden by a grove of fruit trees. As soon as our engine stopped we could hear the hammering of the smiths. We had to climb up a steep and slippery log in which notches had been cut and were greeted by some of the people who had come to meet us, the remainder waiting for us on the veranda of the house. This is of the usual communal Dyak type with a common veranda and, inside, a long room running the whole length of the house, from which the private rooms open off.

The community is a tiny isolated one of only twenty souls, but the people still speak their own distinct language and only the head of the house or *Tua Rumah*, a man called Ambo anak Abong, could speak Malay. He was very helpful and we were given a most friendly reception. They spread out their

best mats for us and we sat down and talked. Personally I thought they exactly resembled Dyaks in appearance but, as already mentioned, they have a distinct language and origin. Some of their old customs are fundamentally different, as for instance that the Malohs will eat the flesh of the crocodile which the Dyaks would never do, and they seem to have reached a higher stage of culture. We had especially come to see how they work silver and brass.

There was one very elaborately dressed individual in the house, and on enquiring I learned that he was the headman of a Dyak house farther upstream who had come to purchase a set of jewellery on the occasion of his son's marriage and also wanted some of his own ornaments duplicated. I asked the Malohs to carry on with their business and the women went indoors to bring out several heavy chests which contained the silverware.

They were really treasure-chests full of all sorts of delightful things. There were heavy





All photographs by the Author

A young Maloh mother in ceremonial dress, adorned with the silverware for which her tribe is locally renowned. Round her waist she wears a broad metal corset and two heavy silver belts, one of which—



—has an ornate silver buckle. Below these may be seen a narrower chain-like belt; from it a number of silver coins hang down over her short, hand-woven and attractively patterned heavy cotton sarong



(Left) *A Maloh craftsmen making metal corsets, an important item of their jewellery. First, small silver rings are beaten into shape and strung in rows along strips of cane (as many as forty on each); then these are fastened together to form either a tubular corset which is pulled on, or a type which fastens in the front with a buckle*

(Right) *Another Maloh worker, seated at his anvil, begins to fashion a piece of silver into an ornament for a sword-hilt. His tools are simple: a small anvil, a native hammer and several chisels and punches. Unlike Chinese and European artisans, the Malohs have not learned the use of wax moulds; they can, however, weld silver together*





The Dyaks of Sarawak are largely dependent on Maloh craftsmanship for their traditional silverwear. (Left) A Dyak dandy is here seen entering the house of a group of Maloh metal-workers; he has come to purchase a set of jewellery in preparation for his son's impending marriage and to make arrangements for having some of his own ornaments duplicated. (Above) For his inspection, one of the girls of the house removes from a chest such ready-made finery as broad silver corsets, narrow coin belts and heavy bracelets

silver belts, three or four inches wide; various bracelets for the arms and legs; metal corsets for the women; details for swords and head-dresses and many filigree chains. Negotiations started and the customer ordered a good deal. He was a vain man and a great dandy and was especially fond of ornamental tassels of silver and beadwork combined which are suspended from the waist.

Ambo anak Abong told us that the Dyak was a rich and generous man and a very valued client. He seemed to be greatly attached to one little girl in the house who was later to become a great favourite of mine, too. She was one of the sweetest children I ever saw. She was called Jambo anak Dampa and was about five years old, tiny with big black eyes, a gay and cheerful little thing and never self-conscious, even in front of the camera.

After the Dyak customer had gone away no one seemed very keen to do any work. I asked the girls to put on their best clothes,

which they were very willing to do, and some of the men showed me how they worked. Their work-places were scattered about the house. One boy was making small silver rings in a corner of the veranda. Many of these little rings are strung together on strips of cane to form the metal corsets which are a feature of the women's jewellery. There are as many as forty silver rings on each of the lengths of cane, which are, in turn, fastened together until the wearer looks as if she is enclosed in large circular metal rings.

Another worker was beginning to hammer a piece of silver into an ornament for a sword-hilt. His tools were very simple: a small anvil, a native hammer and several small chisels and punches. The Malohs have not learned the use of wax moulds as have European and Chinese silversmiths, although they have seen the Chinese using the technique in the bazaars. They do know, however, how to weld pieces of silver together.



The Malohs' Dyak customer, a vain man, was delighted to pose for the photographer and show off some of his elaborate ornaments. A striking splash of colour was provided by the decorative tassels, of silver and bead-work combined, hanging from his waist. The beads (usually yellow, red, black and white) are very tiny, and stringing them must be an extremely tedious job

Jambo anak Dampa, a tiny and completely unselfconscious five-year-old, with her mother, Kupa. Already the little girl emulates her elders in wearing filigree necklaces and silver belts, silver bracelets on both wrists and ankles and a silver comb in her hair



I asked Ambo whether the people of the house plant paddy and he seemed rather amused at the question. He said that they never needed to do any work apart from fashioning silver, and that people came from far and near to have their jewellery made by the Malohs. He also told me that about thirty years ago they used to work brass as well as silver but that nowadays brass had gone out of fashion, though they receive occasional orders for gold work.

While we were talking, the women and girls had dressed and returned to the veranda. They were a most charming group. They wore short, hand-woven cotton sarongs, pleated in front to allow space for walking, rather thick and heavy and with many different patterns. Indeed, no two were alike, though their main colours were silver, dull

red, brown and fawn. The lower end of the sarong usually consisted of a woven border or one into which silver thread was actually sewn. The girls wore around the waist a number of silver belts, the lowest one with silver coins suspended from it, and sometimes the metal corset, which may be a foot wide. They also wore loose filigree chains around the neck, flowers and silver combs in the hair and many bracelets on the wrist and a few on the ankles. They posed most willingly and I had to promise to send them copies of my photographs, which I later did with pleasure. Finally we were escorted down to the landing-place and, as we drew away, one of the girls fell into the river, whereupon all the others jumped in too, and it really looked as if we had been visiting an unusually attractive colony of mermaids.



The valley in the Tien Shan where the Kazak tribesmen gathered to greet the newly-appointed Chinese Governor. The Tien Shan or "Heavenly Mountains" divide Sinkiang into two distinct parts. In the south are the oases round the edge of the Takla Makan desert while in the north the country is mostly steppe or mountain pastures

The Much-Courted Kazaks

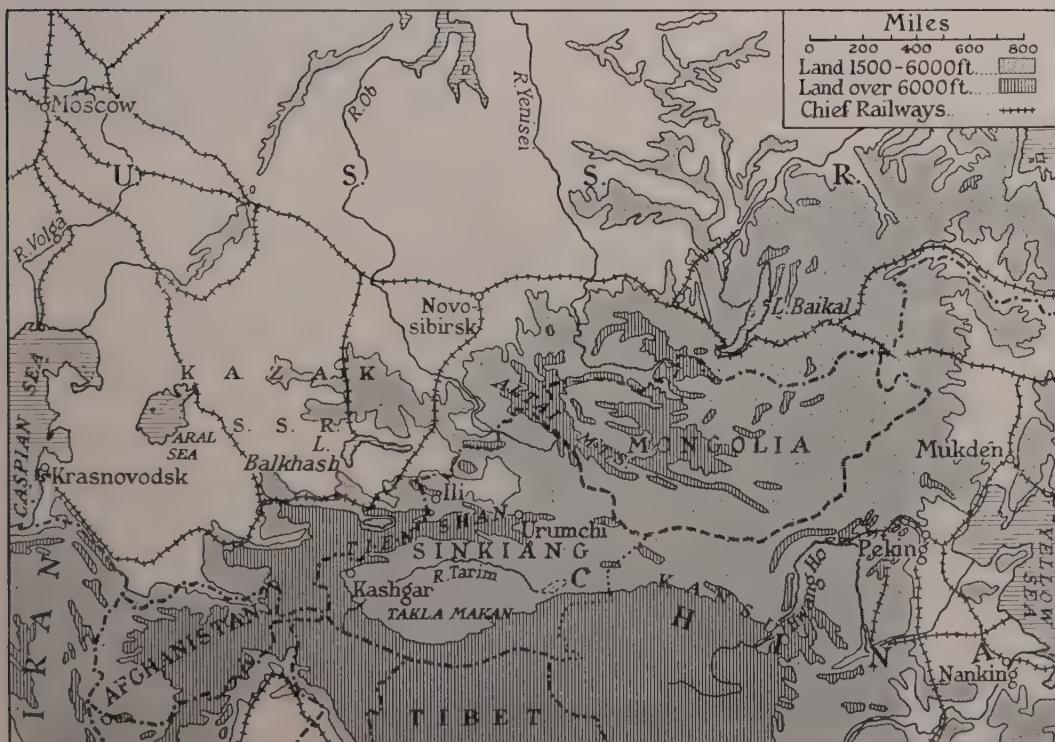
by LT.-COLONEL N. L. D. MCLEAN, D.S.O.

Colonel McLean has made a special study of the political and social problems of Central Asia. He spent nearly a year in 1945-6 in Sinkiang, into which very few travellers have lately been able to penetrate. There he met Mahsud Sabri, whom the Kazaks are here shown receiving as Governor

THE accompanying photographs show a gathering of nomadic Kazak tribesmen. They are giving a week-end reception in a valley of the Tien Shan mountains in honour of Mahsud Sabri, the newly appointed Governor of Sinkiang. During the last few years the Kazaks have been in open revolt against the Chinese Central Government, which is now trying to conciliate them by offers of good jobs in the civil administration and the army. Should it succeed in winning over the Kazaks, the Chinese position in Sinkiang will be greatly strengthened; for the warlike Kazaks are militarily the most powerful group in the province. In the struggle for power in Central Asia between the Russians and the Chinese, Sinkiang has often played an important part, for it is the key to the back door of China—the Kansu corridor—down which in the past have poured so many

barbarian hordes to lay waste the fertile lands and rich cities of China. Sinkiang is the extreme western province of China and lies in the heart of Central Asia, where the frontiers of Russia and China meet. It has an area of about 600,000 square miles and although larger than Great Britain, Germany and France combined is much less densely populated. The majority of its five million inhabitants are Muslims, of Turkish stock, but the Chinese, who form only five per cent of the population, are today the rulers. The Muslim Turks can be divided into two main groups, the settled Turkis of the oases and towns, and the nomadic Kazaks and Kirghiz tribes of the mountains and steppe.

The Kazaks, who today number about four and a half million, are spread over the Kazak Soviet Socialist Republic and northern Sinkiang. They are the descendants of one of





(Above) *Turki dancer from Kashgar.* At feasts or gatherings in Sinkiang there are often dancing displays by professional dancers, and sometimes by the guests themselves. (Left) The traditional Kazak game of "Oghlak". The object is to carry the carcass of a sheep or goat beyond a certain line. The skill of the game lies in warding off the attacks of rival horsemen, who try and seize the carcass.

(Left) The man in the tall cap is Mahsud Sabri, a well-known Turk from Ili, who studied medicine in Istanbul before entering politics in Sinkiang. In the 1930's he was forced by Soviet pressure to leave the province and passed several years in exile in Central China. He returned in 1946 and was thereafter appointed as Governor of Sinkiang by the Chinese



(Right) The special yurt, or kibitka, provided for the Governor, with the Chinese flag flying above and Chinese sentries guarding the entrance. Yurts, used throughout Central Asia, are made of large squares of felt stretched over a collapsible and easily transportable wooden frame. Inside they are warm and comfortable and the floors and sides are frequently covered by luxurious and gaily-coloured oriental rugs

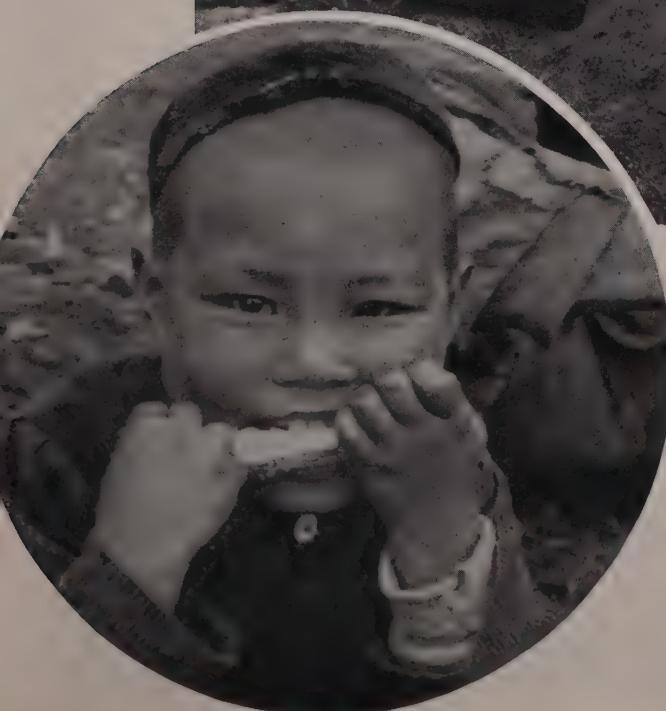




The Kazaks weave some of the textiles they use, especially rugs, on portable looms. The rugs have pleasant colours but the weave is coarse and recently the dyes have been of very poor quality

the Turkish tribes serving in the armies of Jenghis Khan, the 13th-century Mongol conqueror. Until recently they were organized in 'hordes'; each horde was divided into a number of tribes, which in turn were subdivided into clans or groups of families. Those Kazaks living in Sinkiang have now been reduced by numerous wars to about half a million. The clan system still survives but today there are no clearly defined tribal territories. In times of war or anarchy they rapidly assemble in predatory bands, while

in times of firm rule they split up into clans and give little trouble except for horse and cattle thieving. When firm rule is pushed to the point of interference in their clan affairs they migrate elsewhere, if they can, in order to find a milder or more incompetent overlord. They spend their lives wandering in search of grazing for their vast herds of sheep, cattle and two-humped Bactrian camels, over the windswept steppe and along the thickly wooded slopes of the Tien Shan and Altai mountains. They move, in harmony with the



A group of Kazaks boiling a sheep for the evening meal. Their food is plain but plentiful, consisting of boiled meat, milk, cream and cheese and sometimes bread or rice. At feasts they gorge themselves with mutton pilau or roasted horse-meat, washed down with cups of kumys, a potent drink made from fermented mare's milk



(Above) One of the tough young Kazak horsemen who have always been a major factor in the politics of Sinkiang, courted for their support by rulers or would-be-rulers of the province. His peaked cloth hat, fur-lined, is bright red and is standard local headgear. (Right) Bactrian camels: the most useful transport animals of Central Asia



changes of the seasons, from summer to winter pastures.

Some of their pastures lie in the Soviet Union and Mongolia; but the Kazaks pay little or no attention to frontiers. They migrate, quarrel and raid each other as the necessities of life or the mood of the moment dictate. In physique they are strong and hardy with slit eyes, red faces and well-made although squat bodies. They have very healthy constitutions and can endure without difficulty the extremes of heat and cold of northern Sinkiang, where the temperature rises above 100° F. in summer and falls below zero in winter. Technically they are very expert at handling all livestock and are remarkably fine horsemen; indeed they pass most of their life in the saddle, either tending their animals or hunting game with rifles or sometimes with hawks and eagles in the traditional Kazak manner. They are good fighters and show even greater ability as robbers. Their military weakness is that they are unable to submit to discipline, while their political weakness is that they cannot unite among themselves. They have, however, always been a major factor in the politics of Sinkiang, and every ruler or would-be-ruler of the province has tried either to obtain their support or to suppress them altogether; for to ignore them is as unwise as it is dangerous.

In the past Sinkiang has changed hands many times, but between 1934 and 1944, although nominally under Chinese rule, it was in fact under Soviet control. In 1942, when the German armies were hammering at the gates of Stalingrad, the Chinese Government decided to reassert its influence. The Soviet Government was then in no position to take strong action, so that between 1942 and 1944 its influence was gradually eliminated. The Chinese moved up reinforcements and the British and American Governments opened consulates in Urumchi, the capital of the province. It seemed as though Sinkiang had once more become, in fact as well as in name, an integral part of the Chinese Republic.

By 1944, however, the tide of war on the Western front had turned in favour of the Soviet Union and its policy towards Japan and China stiffened. The result of this in Sinkiang was an uprising among the Kazaks of the Altai. The immediate causes of the uprising are obscure but it seems that attempts by the Chinese Government to settle Chinese refugees on the nomads' pasture had angered the Kazaks, who in any case are always ready to revolt if there is a chance of easy

loot. Other revolts followed and soon the three northern of Sinkiang's ten districts were in rebel hands. They proclaimed an "Independent Republic of Eastern Turkestan", with its capital in Ili, and formed a government with an administrative system, collected taxes, and tried to organize their troops into a regular army. Most of the key appointments were held by Kazaks or Turkis, aided, it is said, by advisers from the Soviet Union.

In the autumn of 1945 the rebels made another attempt to seize the rest of Sinkiang. The attempt was synchronized with, and in many ways similar to, the rebellion in Persian Azerbaijan. After an initial success the rebel advance was halted and seven uneasy months of negotiations between the Chinese and the rebels followed. On June 6, 1946, an agreement was signed whereby the rebels recognized Chinese suzerainty in return for a wide measure of local autonomy for the three northern districts. The rebels organized a 'Nationalist' movement, demanding immediate and complete autonomy for the whole of Sinkiang. The Chinese realized they were not strong enough to hold the province against the rising power of the Nationalists and therefore decided to make an alliance with the more conservative elements of the local population, who were also alarmed by the growth of Soviet influence in the Nationalist movement.

The Chinese, with the help of the mullahs (Muslim priests), have recently encouraged a religious revival as an antidote to Communist propaganda; and today in Sinkiang there is a marked return to the old Islamic way of life. The women, who during the last ten years were forced by law to go about unveiled, can today be seen scurrying through the streets of the towns completely hidden in their thick white cloaks; the drinking of alcohol is discouraged; and the teaching of the Quran is given prominent place in the curriculum of all schools. The Chinese have had some success in winning over peasants, merchants and some of the nomads. Many of the Kazaks have recently sworn allegiance to the Chinese, often at gatherings similar to that shown in the accompanying photographs. There are, however, powerful Kazak clans still in revolt, and the great bulk of the people of Sinkiang remain undecided whether to follow their traditional conservative and religious leaders, who enjoy Chinese support, or to transfer their allegiance to the Nationalist and Communist leaders who have Soviet support.

A Comparison of Castles. III

by KAY CANNON

THE first two castles described in this series, Ludlow (February) and Château Gaillard (March), were built by royal command to defend military frontiers. Now we consider a group designed for a different purpose—that of dominating their surroundings. During the 13th century feudalism was at its peak and the great nobles were forced to be constantly on guard, not only against each other, but also against the local peasantry, whose loyalty was liable to speedy evaporation in the presence of a sense of grievance, be it real or imagined. Thus it was that the mighty lords of Europe built their strongholds upon the high places in order to protect their families, wealth and lands, and perched there, ever watchful, ever ready to repel surprise attacks, like so many proud eagles guarding their nests. (There were, of course, exceptions, as at Ghent, where hills were lacking; but in such cases the strength of walls and towers was redoubled to compensate for lack of the additional defensive superiority gained by building on an eminence.)

Amongst the various influences brought to bear on the development of mediaeval military architecture that of the Crusades must be rated very high: they not only fostered the bellicose instincts of the feudal lords but also gave them many new ideas regarding both attack and defence; and the opportunity afforded to Western engineers of studying the solid fortresses of the Byzantine Empire revolutionized the art of castle-building in Europe. Previously the donjon (or keep) had been regarded as the fortress and the outer walls as accessory defences. From the East came the ruling principle of the mutual defence of all parts of the castle. A system of concentric fortifications was evolved—massive walls surmounted by parapets and flanked with projecting towers; and the number and strength of these towers increased until the keep became secondary in importance, or, rather, the whole unified castle became one vast keep, each part being independent, though all protected the others.

Advances in offensive and defensive technique during the Middle Ages kept fairly well abreast, the former constantly giving impetus to the latter; defence, however, remained generally superior to offence—until after the invention of gunpowder in the 14th century, which discovery within a hundred years had rendered the feudal fortress an

anachronism. Before that time, however, the chief dangers with which the besieged had to contend resulted from battering-rams and bores for forcing a breach in the walls, picks for undermining them and siege-engines for catapulting such missiles as burning pitch and red-hot stones upon the garrison. These threats were countered in various ways. Inflammable wooden galleries were gradually replaced by projecting stone parapets with loop-holes for the use of defenders armed with cross-bows, and machicolations (regularly spaced holes between supporting corbels) through which boiling oil and a variety of choice objects—odiferous, heated or polyangular—could be rained upon the hapless attackers attempting to scale or breach the masonry below. The walls were heightened, crenellated and provided with rampart walks and an increased number of multi-storeyed towers, so that the whole circuit could be covered by the bolts of defending archers; while the walls themselves were generally 'battered', or inclined outwards towards their bases, to lessen the danger from mining and to keep would-be sappers well within range of projectiles discharged from the parapets above.

It must not be supposed, however, that the only architectural improvements made to the castle during this period were defensive in character; there was, in fact, also a marked advance in the development of domestic amenities. The feudal code of chivalry gradually bred a desire for more gracious living conditions, which in turn found expression in the architecture of the times. To the hall, kitchen and solar (or parlour) of the early keeps, wherein lords and retainers ate and slept in common, were added, in the course of time, reception rooms, private withdrawing rooms, bedrooms, and whole suites of fine chambers. Private chapels (frequently ornate in form and decorated with frescoes) were early regarded as essential by the pious, if bloodthirsty, nobles. Huge fireplaces were built into the walls of the larger rooms, with chimneys to carry away the smoke—a vast improvement. In short, the demands of comfort and beauty had at last come to be recognized, giving birth, with their recognition, to that process of architectural evolution destined to culminate in the splendour of the Renaissance château and palace.



All Ansco color photographs by W. Suschitzky

The rugged Castle of the Counts on the River Lys, in the heart of Belgium's ancient Ghent, was founded by Count Philip of Alsace at the end of the 12th century (on 9th-century foundations) "to curb the excessive arrogance of the men of Ghent", and during the 13th century was reputed to be the strongest castle in the land. From 1350 (a decade after becoming the birthplace of John of Gaunt) to 1798, however, this vast fortress was used solely for administra-

tive purposes, while for most of the 19th century it served as a factory. Not until 1889 was this sacrilege recognized as such and a programme set afoot which resulted in a clearance of modern additions and restoration of the original structure. The massive stone walls, with their buttresses, crenellations, parapet walks and numerous turrets, and the solid grey stone buildings combine to give one a powerful impression of firm and abiding impregnability.



The Castle of Zähringen-Kyburg, high above the River Aare at Thun in the Swiss Canton of Berne, was founded by Bertold von Zähringen in 1182. The Zähringens, governors under the German Emperor in the 11th century, exercised sovereign power over Switzerland. When Bertold V died in 1218, leaving no heirs, Thun came under the rule of the Kyburgs; hence the castle's double name. Its square tower (seen above from the east), flanked at the four corners by 'battered' (or outward-sloping) turrets, was built in the French late-12th-century style, a style which was to be abandoned in the following—



—century as it was found unsuitable for sorties and the admittance of troops. The original castle at Thun may have had a flat roof with pinnacles, and there were certainly no windows up to the second floor. The keep was surrounded on three sides by a wall, still preserved, probably containing outer-works and a well. In 1429 the Bernese Government erected a number of buildings within the courtyard; these were later modernized and extended and still serve as cantonal offices. The keep itself (the north-west turret of which is shown above with the town and River Aare beyond) is now used as a museum



The Castle of Chillon in Vaud, Switzerland, at the north-east corner of the Lake of Geneva, was originally founded on its rocky islet, twenty-two yards from shore, in the 9th century to command the narrow St Bernard route between lake and mountains. But it was much enlarged by the Counts of Savoy in the 11th and 12th centuries, extensively rebuilt in the 13th, added to at intervals, and still stands (as seen above from the south) like a giant stone battleship anchored just off-shore, its closely related keep and machicolated towers and walls providing a fine example of architectural unification. When—



—the drawbridge was raised the castle became a completely self-contained and isolated community with interconnecting chapel, dungeons and various halls and chambers built around the heavily fortified circuit. At each side of the central keep is enclosed a courtyard, the northernmost of which appears above. Timber galleries were often retained along interior stone walls. In the background is the 14th-century window of the bedroom of the Dukes and Counts of Savoy, who held the castle until 1536, when it was conquered by the Bernese. Since 1798 it has belonged to the Canton of Vaud



The castle at Gruyères, in the Swiss Canton of Fribourg, can be seen from afar, crowning a wooded hill and surmounting the town climbing up under the protection of its walls, while its pointed keep, viewed (above) from the south-east, seems to reflect, on a reduced scale, the towering Alpine peak beyond. This castle's origins have become lost in legend, but it is known to have been founded by the Counts of Gruyère, probably at some time during the 12th

century. Many of the buildings, though, are of 13th-century construction, and some of them even later, the tiny chapel of St Jean bearing the date 1480. Several mullioned windows are a result of 16th-century restoration work. The Bailiffs and Prefects succeeded the Counts as occupants, but there was talk of demolition in 1848 when Bulle replaced Gruyères as district capital. In 1849, however, the castle was purchased by the brothers John and Daniel Bovy—



—wealthy industrialists and art patrons. Under their direction the Knights' Hall was ornamented with frescoes depicting romantic highlights of Gruyèrian history and panels were painted by Corot and other masters in the Louis XV Salon. Since 1938 the castle has been State property. (Above) A general view, taken from the west. (Right) The inner courtyard, lined with wooden galleries formerly used for dramatic entertainments

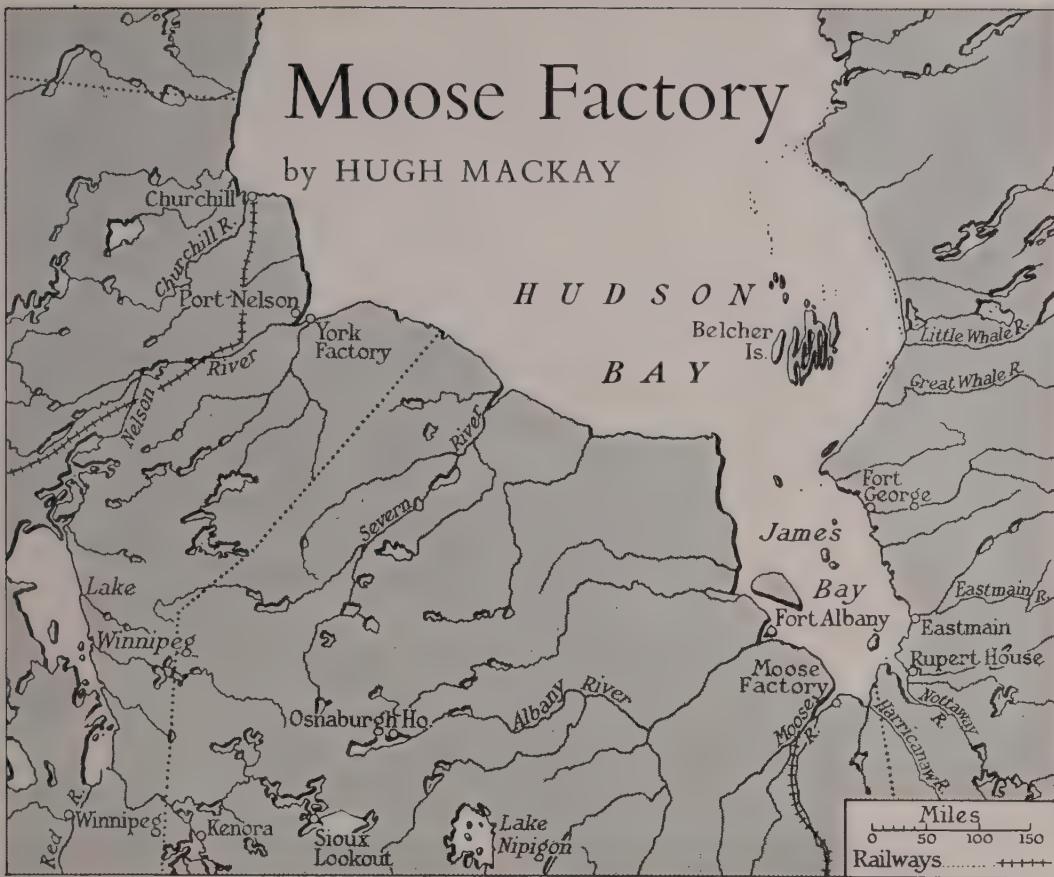




Vianden, an ancient town on both banks of the River Our in northern Luxembourg, is dominated by the majestic ruins of a vast gothic castle built by the Counts of Vianden on the site of a Roman fortress. Here the exiled poet, Victor Hugo, loved to wander, paying tribute in his paintings and verse to this proud relic of a brilliant past, which included occupancy by the Orange-Nassau family, ancestors of the Royal House of Holland and Luxembourg. Its early 13th-century decagonal chapel, the new roof of which shows up clearly (above) at the right, has been skilfully restored

Moose Factory

by HUGH MACKAY



A. J. Thornton

Nearly three centuries ago, in 1668, a handful of adventurers sailed from England across the ocean to Hudson's (now called Hudson) Bay and traded with the Eskimos and Indians there. So successful was this first trip that on returning home with a valuable cargo of furs they petitioned Charles II for a charter; this he granted to Prince Rupert and seventeen noblemen and gentlemen, appointing them the "Governor and Company of Adventurers of England trading in Hudson's Bay" and securing to them an absolute monopoly of the trade of all the lands watered by streams flowing into the Bay.

The Company's representatives wasted little time in setting out to establish fur-trading posts in 'Rupert's Land'—and these grew steadily in number as new territory was discovered. Although the Hudson's Bay Company surrendered its rights of government in 1869, it still has over 200 posts stretching across Canada and northward into the Arctic, operates fleets of ships and aircraft, and owns chain-stores in all the principal cities. Its main headquarters have, however, remained in London.

Moose Factory at the "bottom of the Bay"—James Bay—can claim the distinction of being the oldest post, having been established at the mouth of Moose River in 1671; and for nearly 200 years it was also the chief post. Now the Company's Canadian headquarters are situated in Winnipeg, but Moose Factory retains its importance as the centre of a far-spread community of 900 souls, consisting mainly of Cree Indians and a number of Scottish Canadians; any Eskimos met there will be visitors, for their resident ancestors were long ago driven north by the Crees. Indians and Eskimos, though of similar racial stock, have little in common.

Fur trading is still the main activity of the region. Animals caught here, beside the famed beaver, include musquash, mink, ermine, fisher, marten, lynx and several varieties of fox.

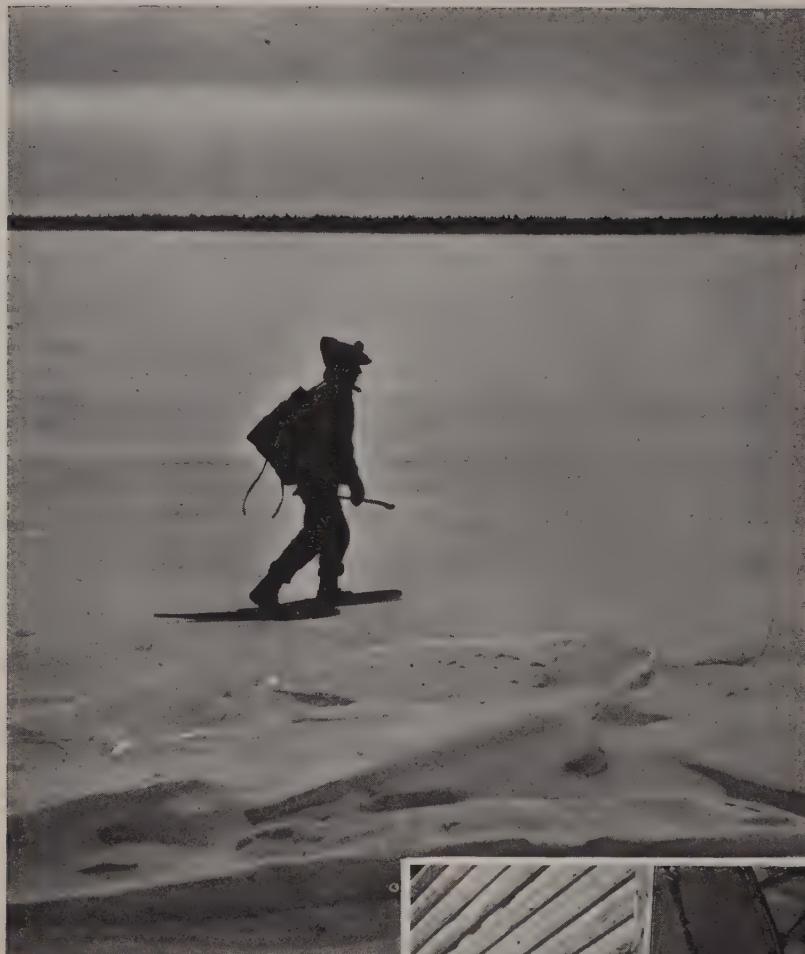
Moose Factory today is no longer an isolated trading-post, for not only ship and dog-sled but also railway and aircraft link it with the south, while a two-way radio-telegraph system is used to maintain contact with other posts, with government stations and the outside world.



Moose Factory is a neat settlement of white-painted wooden buildings stretched (left) alongside the road that lines the bank of Moose River. This road, which has been 'worn in' rather than built, separates a quay (where ships unload and load their cargoes) from the settlement's warehouses, homes, church and Hudson's Bay Company store. (Above) Outside the trading-post a customer prepares to tow away his load of purchases



Inside the store is a hive of activity, for here the Indians can obtain all the necessities and many of the luxuries of life. As in all parts of the world, the market-place has become the forum and rendezvous of the community: the trading-post is the main link with civilization, a magnet drawing Indians from near and far, not only to sell their furs but to renew contact with each other and lay in fresh stocks of food and clothing.



(Left) Setting out in search of the elusive fox. Allan Quacheagan lives at Moose factory but works twenty-five miles away to the east in an area allotted to him by the Canadian Government. Throughout the winter months he covers many miles daily by snow-shoe and has little time for relaxation but during the spring and summer 'close season' can enjoy the fruits of his labours, and, if he has sold enough furs to the Hudson's Bay Company and saved his money, even visit some of the big cities 'down south'.

(Right) Angus Cheechoo stretches beaver pelts out to dry on springy hoops. (The Scottish Christian name is not unusual; Post Managers have always been Aberdonians and the Crees speak English with a marked Aberdeen accent.) The beaver has long, harsh hairs which, during the dressing of the fur, are plucked off to expose the rich, velvety surface beneath. A full-length coat requires from a dozen to seventeen skins, all of which have to be matched exactly as to colour and depth of the fur.

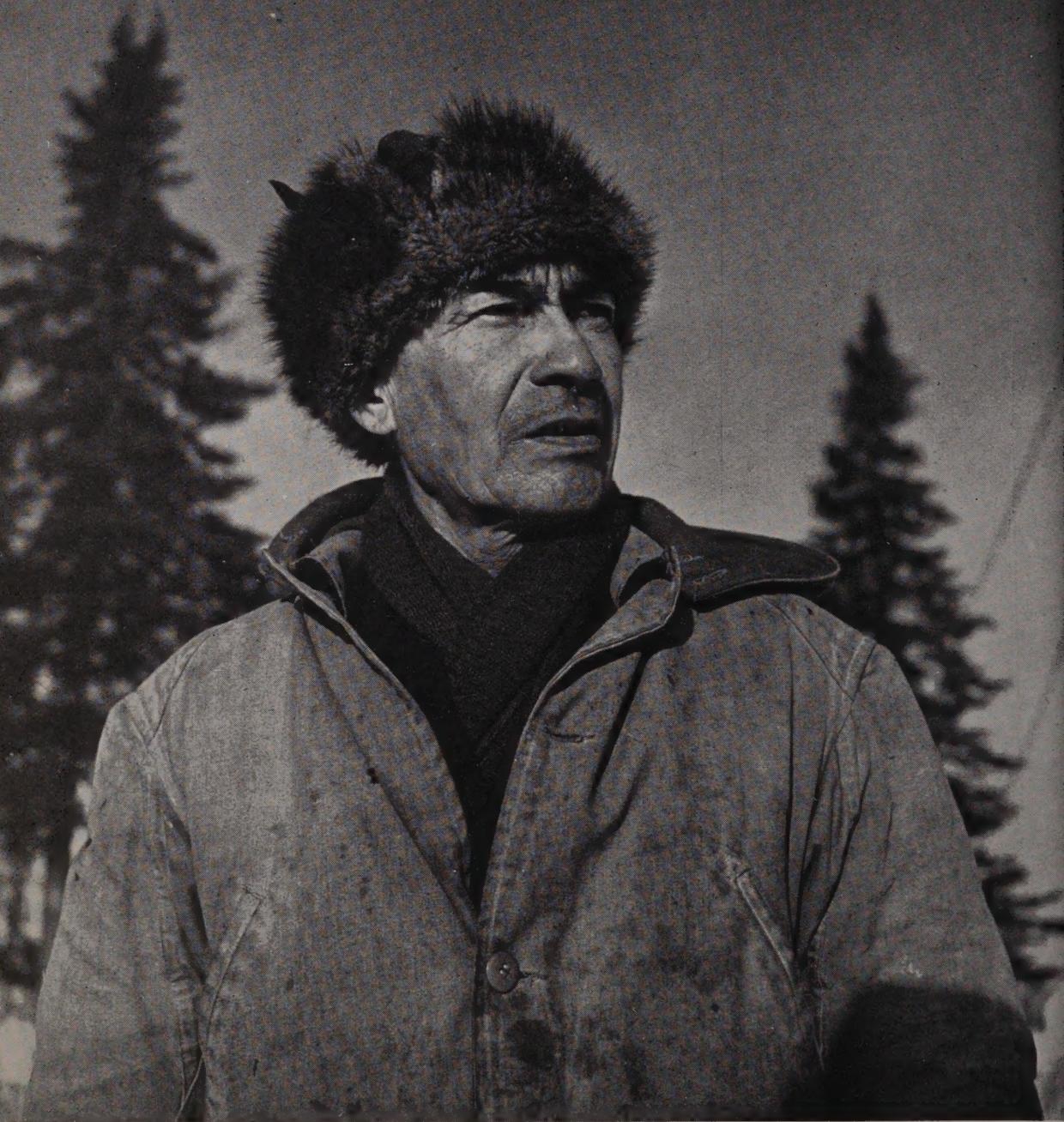




(Left) Allan Quachegan sells a fox fur to the Post Manager who pays, in Canadian currency, the established price for this particular grade. Indians may deposit their cash, withdraw it, or use it to pay for goods already received on credit. The Manager, apart from buying and handling furs and maintaining the store, is responsible for the upkeep of all Hudson's Bay buildings, boats and equipment; in addition, he supervises the hunting activities, health and general well-being of the Crees

(Right) Corporal Jim Davies of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police is checking luggage flown in to Moose Factory. Numerous planes equipped with floats for summer landing and skis for winter landing are in constant use for transporting supplies, mail and passengers between posts. But, though aircraft have contributed greatly to speeding up communications, ships still provide a vital form of transport, and the Hudson's Bay Company operates a large number of vessels in both Hudson and James Bays

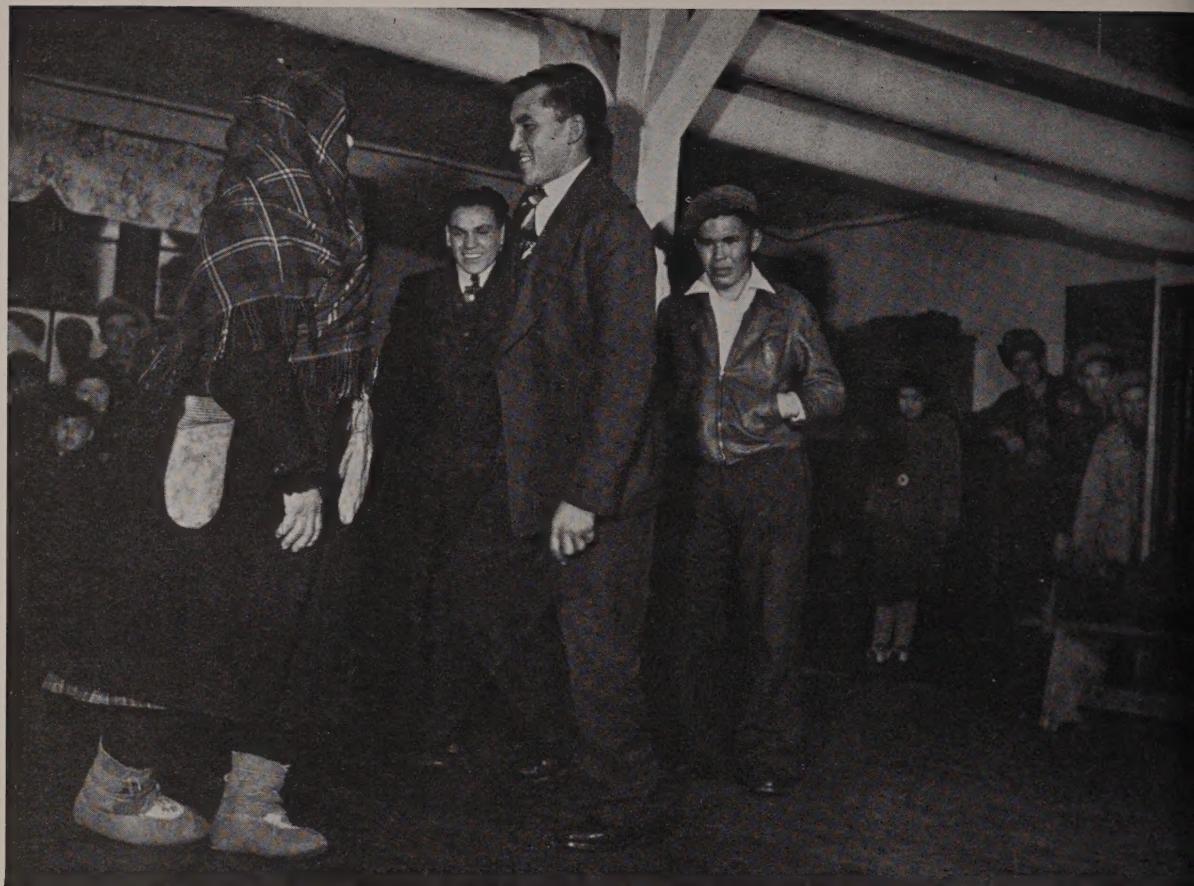




John Fletcher is the elected head of the Moose Factory Cree Indians, and receives an annual equivalent of about £25 for this honour. The Crees, with an estimated total Canadian population of 15,000, are to be found within an area stretching from the middle of Labrador in the east to the Rocky Mountains in the west and as far north as the Mackenzie River delta. No longer a robust people, they live mainly on special reservations created by the Canadian Government. But, while the Government is responsible for their health and welfare, Hudson's Bay Company—



—officials do much to assist, often acting as agents supplying relief, dispensing drugs, issuing family allowances and registering vital statistics. The economic security of the Cree is zealously guarded and a constant effort is made to help him to help himself. One of the problems being vigorously tackled is that of overcrowding, a contributory factor in the Cree's physical decline. The authorities hope for an early improvement in the living conditions of such householders as patriarch Jerry Solomon (above) whose home is crammed to capacity



Relaxation in Canada's frozen Northland is often strikingly 'civilized' in form. At Moose Factory the Mission Hall is also a Palais de Danse; here (above) Joe Sutherland, dressed in modern garb like the other young folk, dances nimbly with Easter Sapetum, who clings to the shawl and footwear of by-gone days. Meanwhile the Post Manager, his wife and other Company and Government officials enjoy (left) their game of bridge. Alternative forms of entertainment include concerts, films and gramophone recitals, as well as many outdoor sports, such as shooting, fishing, sleighing, sailing or canoeing.